

CONFIDENTIAL
INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Bulgarian Strategic Communications Activities.

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1. During the past two years, and in particular since the beginning of 1948, large numbers of Soviet pontoons have been collected in various ports of the Danube and, in particular, on the Rumanian and Bulgarian section of the Danube.
2. These pontoons have principally been massed in the following ports or towns: Vidin, Calafat, Lom, Orehovo, Svishtov, Zimnicea, Corabia, Gigen, Turnu Magurele, Turnu Severin, Giurgiu, Ruse, Turtucaia, Silistra.
3. This massing of pontoons has been strongly insisted upon by the Bulgarian Minister of Defense, and, in particular, by Lieutenant General Ivan Kinov, Chief of the General Staff. Consequently, it is considered that this massing is principally for military purposes for the transport of guns, cavalry, tanks, etc., besides the troops themselves.
4. In addition to this massing of pontoons, the following railways, which have been or are being built, are also principally for strategic military purposes:
 - a. Mezdra - Vidin (on the Danube)
 - b. Orehovo - Vratsa (under construction and to be completed by the beginning of 1949).
 - c. Troyan - Lovech
 - d. Ruse - Gorna Orehovitsa - Sofia
 - e. Samuil - Silistra.
 - f. Omurtag (formerly Balbunar) - Razgrad - Turtucaia
 - g. The railway line in the Dobrudja linking Dobrich with the Varna-Shumen region.

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